

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A tool guide for guiding an end effector of a robotically controlled surgical
instrument from a position outside a patient body to a position in close proximity to an
internal surgical site within the patient body is provided. The tool guide typically comprises
a body, a seat formation on the body, the seat formation being arranged to seat in an aperture
leading into the patient body so as to mount the tool guide on the patient body, and a sheath
formation on the body. The sheath formation typically defines a longitudinally extending
10 internal passage, an inlet leading into the passage and an outlet leading from the passage.
The sheath formation is arranged to cooperate with the seat formation such that when the seat
formation is seated in the aperture, the outlet of the sheath formation can be positioned in
close proximity to the internal surgical site thereby to enable the end effector to be guided to
a position in close proximity to the surgical site by passing it through the inlet, along the
15 passage and out from the outlet, so as to emerge from the outlet at the position in close
proximity to the internal surgical site.

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